

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TOKYO 13880 020501Z
ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W
-----041077 020503Z /14
R 020455Z AUG 78 ZFF-4
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0066

S E C R E T TOKYO 13880

NODIS

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE FROM AMBASSADOR

EO 11652:GDS
TAGS: OVIP (FRANK PRESS), CH,US,JA
SUBJECT: FRANK PRESS VISIT TO PEKING

REF: STATE 187741

1. UNDER PRESENT GROUND RULES AT PRIME MINISTER'S RESIDENCE, IT IS ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO CALL ON HIM IN A PRIVATE "ONE ON ONE" FORMAT. FOREIGN OFFICE AUTOMATICALLY SITS IN ON CALLS BY FOREIGN AMBASSADORS AS DOES CHIEF CABINET SECRETARY. MOREOVER, EVEN IF MEETINGS ARE NOT PUBLICIZED IN ADVANCE, WATCHFUL PRESS CORPS AT RESIDENCE ARE ALWAYS AWARE OF VISITS BY OUTSIDERS AND WOULD DEMAND BRIEFING. I THEREFORE DECIDED THAT PRIVACY COULD BEST BE MAINTAINED BY ASKING SHERMAN TO CONVEY INFORMATION IN REFTEL TO PM'S PRIVATE SECRETARY HISASHI OWADA FOR TRANSMITTAL TO PM FUKUDA ONLY. WE HAVE USED THIS SYSTEM EFFECTIVELY IN THE PAST.

2. SHERMAN BRIEFED OWADA MORNING AUGUST 2. OWADA LISTENED CAREFULLY AND SAID HE WOULD MAKE SURE THAT PRIME MINISTER WAS INFORMED IMMEDIATELY, AND SAID THAT
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THE SENSITIVITY OF THE INFORMATION WOULD BE STRESSED. HE WAS MOST GRATEFUL TO US FOR MAKING THE BRIEFING AVAILABLE AND COMMENTED THAT THE PRIME MINISTER WOULD FULLY APPRECIATE ITS POLITICAL IMPORTANCE. HE CAUTIONED, HOWEVER, THAT SHOULD THE USG WISH TO DISCUSS ANY TECHNICAL OR SCIENTIFIC ASPECTS OF THE ISSUES OR AGREEMENTS INVOLVED IT WOULD BE NECESSARY

TO BRING IN OTHER OFFICES OF THE GOJ. UNTIL SUCH
TIME, HE SAID HE WOULD ENSURE THAT THE INFORMATION DID
NOT GO BEYOND THE PRIME MINISTER HIMSELF.

3. OWADA ASKED WHETHER ANY REACTION FROM THE USSR
WAS EXPECTED. SHERMAN DECLINED SPECULATE. MANSFIELD

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Draft Date: 02 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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